REMARKS

The Office Action in the above-identified application has been carefully considered and this amendment has been presented to place this application in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reexamination and reconsideration of this application are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-30 are in the present application. It is submitted that these claims were patentably distinct over the prior art cited by the Examiner, and that these claims were in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112. The changes to the claims, as presented herein, are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. sections 101, 102, 103 or 112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicant is entitled.

Claims 1, 4, 5, 7-16, 19, 20, and 22-30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Benedetto et al. (Article entitled "Soft-Output Decoding Algorithms in Iterative Decoding of Turbo Codes") in view of XP-000888685 (Disclosure entitled "Simplified Log-Map Algorithm"). In response to Applicant's previous arguments the Examiner correctly notes the formula for the correction term, $F = -a\,|P-Q| + b$, was not recited in the claims. Accordingly, Applicant has amended claims 1 and 16 to recite: "wherein said variable is an absolute value of the input data." This absolute value term is a distinguishing feature of the invention and corresponds to the absolute value of the difference between P and Q in the equation $F = -a\,|P-Q| + b$. By contrast (and as noted by the examiner), Benedetto uses a simplified expression $F = -a\,x + b$, which is analogous to the prior art linear approximation distinguished in the specification and shown in Figure 5A. Accordingly, Benedetto fails to

disclose the claimed absolute value term and is an example of the prior art correction technique which the present invention improves upon. Therefore, for at least this reason, Benedetto and the XP-000888685 document fail to render obvious the present invention and the rejected claims should now be allowed.
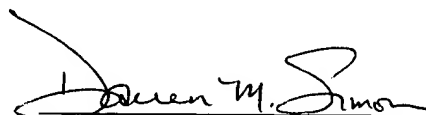
In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application as now presented is in condition for allowance. Early and favorable reconsideration of the application are respectfully requested.

No fees are deemed to be required for the filing of this amendment, but if such are, the Examiner is hereby authorized to charge any insufficient fees or credit any overpayment associated with the above-identified application to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

If any issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions, he/she is invited to call the undersigned at the telephone number provided below. The Examiner's consideration of this matter is gratefully acknowledged.

Respectfully submitted,
FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP

By: _____
Darren M. Simon
Reg. No. 47,946
(212) 588-0800

-10-